

Welcome, New Pastors!



Left to right: Ben and April Hobbes, Alex and Teresa VanCuran, Tim Shalala, Bill Dobson, Chuck Pausley II, Wayne Wible, David Bout, Ben Krueger, Aaron Young



Council of 12

2016-2019

- Tom Alexander, *First, Wellington*
- Dave Denny, *Whipple Ave, Canton*
- Matt Nihiser, *Calvary, Lancaster*
- Jeff Willetts, *Calvary, Bellefontaine*

2017-2020

- David Conrad, *Calvary, Xenia*
- David Culver, *Chairman, Shawnee Hills, Jamestown*
- Ken Lowe, *Hope, Akron*
- Larry Nocella, *Camden, Wellington*

2018-2021

- Mark Ashley, *Northfield, Northfield*
- Noel Hack, *First, Lagrange*
- Dave Kisner, *Wash. Heights, Dayton*
- Brad Rickard, *Immanuel, Columbus*

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A Word from the Rep

This is the annual conference edition covering highlights of the 2018 conference at First Baptist Church in Elyria, Ohio. It is a great reminder of the preaching and fellowship that we had together. I am personally thankful for First Baptist Church and the great job they did in preparing for the conference and the wonderful way they provided for us.

The Welcome and Well-done dinner on Monday evening was a great encouragement to all. It was well-attended and the food and service by the students was greatly appreciated. It was a privilege to introduce the new pastors and to recognize those who are retiring. Thank you to Dave and Darlene Murdoch for their music ministry.

It is time to give thanks! I have been reminded this year of I Thessalonians 5:18 which admonishes us, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." So often we hear asked, "What is God's will for me?" Well, this is one thing we know is God's will for us. To be thankful. In everything. Not easy.

I am glad God gives us just what we need to be successful in doing His will. We can be Spirit-led and Word-fed and find thankfulness is the fruit of a life controlled by the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18-20; Colossians 3:16-17). Sounds easy, but sometimes I find it to be a moment by moment challenge. How about you?

God has blessed us with a great fellowship of churches and I am thankful to have the opportunity to represent you. I pray that this coming year will be one that brings glory to God through the people and ministry of our churches. I hope that you will have a wonderful time of Thanksgiving and be blessed as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Grateful,
Chuck, State Rep

WELCOME *(New to OARBC)*

Pastors

Mike and Ann Alger, Leavittsburg Baptist, Warren
Neil and Lisa Appell, Baptist Bible, Ravenna
Joshua and Kathryn Chipchase, Faith Baptist, Oxford
Bill and Grace Dobson, Faith Baptist, Greenville
Wayne and Kim Wible, Boardman Baptist, Youngstown
Alex and Teresa VanCuran, Faith Baptist, Amherst
Aaron and Joy Young, First Baptist, Gallipolis

Associates

David and Brenda Bout, Maranatha Baptist, Columbus
Pat and Erin Cook, Southgate Baptist, Springfield
Nathan and Christina Dupont, First Baptist, Gallipolis
Ben and April Hobbes, Berea Baptist, Berea
Ben and Ashley Krueger, Maranatha Baptist, Columbus
Chuck and Emily Pausley, Grace Baptist, Troy
Tim Shalala, Pleasant Hill Baptist, Smithville

WELL-DONE *(Retired in 2018)*

Bill and Faith Baker, Faith Baptist, Greenville
Ralph and Sara Duffey, Bethel Baptist, Warren
Dan and Iris Hicks, Fostoria Baptist, Fostoria
Tim and Judith Kenoyer, Maranatha Baptist, Columbus
Jim and Linda Luedeman, Vermillion Baptist, Perrysville
Merle Weems, West Bethel Baptist, Cleveland

MILESTONES IN MINISTRY

(Years served in their current ministry)

40 Years

Pastor Steve and Mary Jane Olsen, Pleasant Hill, Smithville

20 Years

Barb Hunt, Director of Children's Ministry, Grace, Cedarville

15 Years

Pastor Dave and Debbie Garlich, Calvary, Hubbard

10 Years

Pastor Mike and Donna Aiken, Bible Baptist, Bedford
Pastor Shawn and Jaime Hess, Grace Baptist, Troy
Pastor Mark and Angie Leslie, New Harmony, Caldwell
Pastor Brian and Naomi Solomon, Children's/Family,
Southgate, Springfield

5 Years

Pastor Dave and Carolyn Culver, Shawnee Hills, Jamestown
Pastor Justin and Grace Hoppe, Outreach/Discipleship,
Washington Heights, Dayton
Pastor Ken and Amy Lowe, Hope Baptist Church, Akron
Pastor Donny and Tirzah Macaluso, Youth/Family,
Calvary Baptist, Bellefontaine
Pastor John and LaVonna McCaw, First Baptist, Medina
Pastor Dan and Laura Neighbors, Student/Family,
Emmanuel Baptist, Toledo
Pastor Chris and Sonya Peria, Berean Baptist, Marion
Pastor John and Becky Shirley, First Baptist, Wauseon

2018 OARBC FALL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Did you miss the fall OARBC conference in Elyria? You were missed. It is like having all the family come home for the holidays, but some family member can't make it. Mark your calendar for the 2019 conference at Emmanuel Baptist, Toledo, October 21-23. It will be extra special as some of our extended family will be joining us, the MARBC (Michigan) and The Crossroads Fellowship (Indiana). The three states are working together to make it a great conference you will not want to miss.

First Baptist Church was superb in the hosting of the conference. From the "modern" nametags to the hospitality room with iced coffee, they specialized in paying attention to the details.

"What a great conference. First Baptist, Elyria did an outstanding job hosting the OARBC Conference..."

Our OARBC State Representative and Pastors preached the Word well while developing the theme, "It's All About the Gospel." Each main session was focused on an aspect of the Gospel beginning with Jesus (*Chuck Pausley*), Grace (*Dave Kisner*), Adoption (*Andrew Shearer*), Repentance and Faith (*Larry Green*), Sanctification (*Duke Crawford*) and Heaven (*Patrick Odle*).

The module and workshops challenged attendees to take the gospel outside of the church walls. "Intentionally Presenting the Gospel in the Workplace" (*Brian Hanson*), and workshops: "Breaking into our Communities with the Gospel" (*Kevin Fath and Rick Thompson*), "The Steps for Church Revitalization" (*Steve Little*), and "The Radical Impact of a Reproducing Church" (*Clare Jewell*), were practical and intentional. Another interesting workshop offered to pastors was "Social Security Planning" (*Dale Whiting*).

The ladies enjoyed great fellowship and interaction at the "Coffee and Crafts" hosted by Ruth Odle and her First Baptist ladies. Pumpkins were crafted, creativity flowed and coffee and ice cream were enjoyed!

Welcome and Well-Done was the theme of the dinner held at the church to honor pastors new to their ministry in the OARBC and pastors who retired in 2018 from OARBC churches. Dave and Darlene Murdoch sang two fitting numbers. The teens from First Baptist served the meal family-style. Everyone was welcome to attend; however, pre-registration was required. There were nine new pastors and three of their wives present and two retiring couples.

Four new Council of 12 members were elected on Monday evening: **Mark Ashley** (*Northfield*), **Noel Hack** (*First, Lagrange*), **Dave Kisner** (*Washington Heights, Dayton*), **Brad Rickard**, (*Immanuel, Columbus*).

Dessert Fellowships were graciously provided in the foyer following the evening services. Cedarville University hosted Monday evening and the Ohio camps—Patmos, Scioto Hills and Skyview—hosted Tuesday evening. There were plenty of good snacks both nights and everyone enjoyed the fellowship.

Tuesday Noon Luncheon was provided by First Baptist, Elyria, for all registered conference attendees. It was a delicious lunch of pulled pork sandwiches and all the extras. Everyone was served in the gym and once again—great fellowship.

Outstanding music characterized the conference under the direction of Pastor Dan Parker. The FBC choir sang a moving rendition of "How Great Thou Art" Monday evening and the Hebron choir, under the direction of Peter Dodd, sang two lovely numbers Tuesday evening. Pastor Parker invited his "old" quartet, the former Collegians of Baptist Bible College, to bring special music during the conference. There were many opportunities to worship through music!

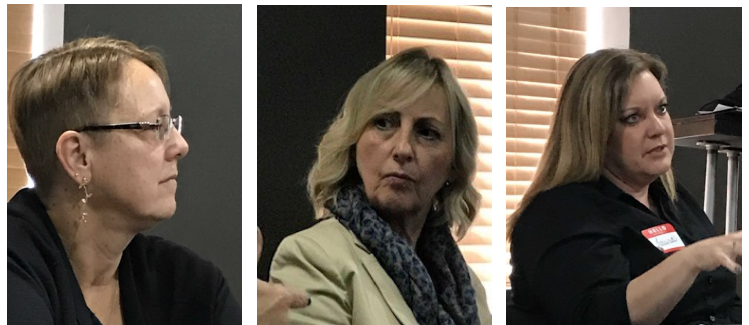
Wednesday morning of the conference is often a smaller crowd as some have already headed home, but those who were there for the final session heard a challenging message about heaven...and the search and rescue mission needed to insure we take many to heaven with us. The conference closed with prayer and public commitment of searching and

Ohio Women for Missions (OWM)



The fall meeting of the OWM was held on October 23, 2018, at the First Baptist Church of Elyria concurrently with the annual OARBC state conference. The women were welcomed and challenged by OWM President Donna Victor (*left*) to integrate this year's theme of KNOW/MODEL/SHARE based on I Peter 3:15 into their daily walk. Linda Pausley, wife of Chuck Pausley, the OARBC State Representative, gave warm greetings, thanking all for receiving them well during their first year of ministry, while also encouraging the women to keep up the good work in supporting missions.

This year a missionary panel was presented instead of a traditional speaker. The panel was moderated by Renny Snare, retired ABWE missionary to Brazil and current Vice-President of the OWM. Serving on the panel were BMM missionaries Jackie Hopkins (*left*) and Laura Niemeyer (*right*), both serving at the Faith Baptist Community Church in downtown Cleveland and both of whom served in Brazil and Chile respectively. The third panel member was Marilyn Shaffer (*center*), ABWE, USA. She and her husband served for many years as church planters in Ohio and are now embarking upon a new ministry to the Muslim community in the Columbus area. These women were transparent and genuine, providing insight and understanding in areas not always openly discussed. The ladies present had their hearts and minds stirred and were moved to pray differently for missionaries and their personal needs.



*Sophie Smith and
Christina Peck*

After the panel discussion there was an International Tasting Fellowship with tastings of typical foods served in Peru, Romania, Poland, Hungary, Latvia and Portugal. The dishes were prepared by the ladies of First Baptist of Elyria, Camden Baptist of Wellington, and Hope Baptist of Akron.

The day was enjoyed by all in attendance! The OWM spring meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2019 and will be a very special celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the OWM. Former OWM President, Sue Miller, will be guest speaker for the occasion. The location for the meeting is not yet confirmed, but save the date and plan to attend.



Polly Strong

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.” I Peter 3:15

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KNOW - I Corinthians 2:2 **MODEL** - Colossians 2:2 **SHARE** - I Peter 3:15

Ladies of Ohio, warm greetings to you,

OUR PURPOSE as the Ohio Women for Missions is to support, pray, and promote missions throughout the state of Ohio in all of our OARBC churches. Together we join our resources to meet the needs of missionaries. The Ohio Women for Missions was established in 1929. This means OARBC ladies have been ministering to missionaries and mission agencies for 90 years coming up in 2019 — what a legacy we have been given!

We are in the planning stages for our 2019 events and are looking forward to celebrating our 90-year anniversary. Our Spring meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, April 27, 2019. SAVE THE DATE!** Former OWM president, Sue Miller, will be our guest speaker. We are still in need of a hosting church. If your church would be willing to host our spring meeting, please contact me as soon as possible.

STATE PROJECT CHANGE: There was a need to change our state project to be in compliance with our OWM constitution. Our new state project is for the ministry of Earl & Marilyn Shaffer, missionaries with ABWE, who are starting a muslim work in the Columbus, Ohio area. They have office equipment needs. We are praying for the Lord to help us provide a laptop computer, a printer, wireless computer projector, a portable sound system and wireless microphones. You should be receiving updated information and bookmarks soon. Watch your e-mails. We ask that you pray for the OWM and the officers as we seek the Lord's leading for the upcoming year. We want to support, pray and promote missions as well as reach out to others with the Gospel of Christ.

Yours by redeeming grace,
Donna Victor, OWM President

OWM FALL RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS

The Huntsburg ladies are an enthusiastic group

The black and white dress "read" all over is modeled by Polly

Pastor's wife, Amy Lowe, shows off her bell-bottoms



*Jill Nihiser, Pastor's wife, a great Bible teacher
A basket up for auction for the state project
Didn't the craft turn out well?!*

“ABSENT FROM THE BODY, PRESENT WITH THE LORD” *II Corinthians 5:8*

Rebecca E. Riggle entered into the presence of her Savior Monday morning, November 5, 2018 after a well-fought battle with cancer. Born Aug 27, 1963 in Callicoon, New York, she was a 1985 graduate of Clarks Summit University in education. She fell in love with Jim Riggle and they were married July 26, 1986. Rebecca taught 2nd grade for five years before becoming a full-time homemaker and pastor's wife. As a follower of Jesus Christ, Rebecca's deep faith and confidence was rooted in the Scriptures where a love for God, family, and the local church were nurtured. She was serving alongside her husband as the beloved pastor's wife of the Faith Baptist Church in Wilmington, Ohio when God called her home. Her gentle and gracious spirit combined with her perseverance, wisdom, and love will be missed until our heavenly reunion. Saturday, November 10, a memorial service celebrating the richness of God's goodness and Rebecca's life was held at Grace Baptist Church in Cedarville. Many friends from far and near gathered to encourage the family and remember Rebecca. Aaron Cook, a dear friend, officiated the service which included personal testimony by friends and family members of Rebecca's commitment to her Lord, to prayer and to love of her family. She is survived by her husband Jim, three adult children, daughter-in-law, son-in-law and three beautiful grandchildren. Rebecca is also survived by her parents, Thomas and Dolores Manley, and four sisters. Her husband, Pastor Jim Riggle, echoes the words of Sarah Edwards after the death of her husband, Jonathan: *“What shall I say: A holy and good God has covered us with a dark cloud. O that we may kiss the rod, and lay our hands on our mouths! The Lord has done it. He has made me adore His goodness that we had (her) so long. But my God lives; and He has my heart.”*



Mary Jo (Plymale) Moore went home to be with her Lord on September 9, 2018. Born on February 15, 1929 in Huntington, West Virginia, she attended the Bible Baptist Institute (now Cedarville University) in Cleveland, Ohio. She married Charles E Moore in 1946. They were married for 52 1/2 wonderful years. Mary served with her husband as pastor and wife in Baptist churches in Ohio, North Carolina, Missouri, and Illinois. They also served a short term as missionaries to Liberia, West Africa. She was a concert pianist who wrote and published the Mary Jo Moore Piano Course. She taught piano lessons for over 60 years. She was the author of several poem books and musical cantatas. She moved to Nashville to live with her daughter in 2003 and was a member of Lakewood Baptist Church. She would like to be remembered as someone who loved her Lord Jesus Christ, Who is worthy of all our praise and adoration. Her husband and two of her children preceded her in death. She is survived by two children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A Note of Thanks

Dear Camp Patmos, Scioto Hills, Skyview Ranch, Directors and staff,

It was so great to have you represented at the fall OARBC Conference. Thank you for coming and giving updates on what God is doing. The impact our Ohio Camps have had on our youth, laymen, leaders and pastors over the years will only be known in eternity. Thank you for partnering with our churches in reaching young people for Jesus.

The homemade cookies and bars you so generously provided at the Tuesday evening reception were so appreciated. We know it was a labor of love and we thank you.

We look forward to many more years partnering together for the sake of the gospel.

*It's All about the Gospel,
The OARBC Conference Attendees*

A Note of Thanks

Dear Cedarville University, Bruce Traeger and staff,

Thank you for the dessert reception you provided for those in attendance at the OARBC Conference in Elyria this past October. We so enjoyed the cupcakes and cookies with our coffee or tea as we were able to continue our fellowship after the Monday evening service.

We appreciate all that Cedarville University has done for the OARBC. We have many faithful pastors who received their training at Cedarville and are faithfully preaching the Word. We have current students receiving an excellent education as well as cultivating a heart to serve God.

May God give us many more years to serve together as partners in the state of Ohio.

*For the sake of the gospel,
The 2018 OARBC Conference Attendees*

Cedarville University Pharmacy Student Beats Cancer, Gives Back to Cancer Patients

Third-year professional pharmacy student Julia Gardner was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) on Aug. 15, 2015, just six weeks after her wedding. After two 1/2 years of treatment, Gardner is in remission and anticipating a 2020 graduation from Cedarville University.

ALL is a cancer that causes bone marrow to make too many immature white blood cells. These cells take the place of normal, functioning blood cells and inhibit the processes of bringing oxygen to organs, healing wounds and fighting infections. The news devastated Gardner, who had visited the doctor after noticing symptoms of exhaustion, dizziness and lack of color in her face. Now, her whole life plan had changed.

After her diagnosis, Gardner withdrew from school and began a two 1/2-year treatment that involved more than 90 days in the hospital, 30-plus blood and platelet transfusions and moving back in with her parents for 24-hour care.

Through all the treatments and hospital visits, Gardner spent her time building new hobbies and growing closer to her family. Together, they started an organization called Julia's Jammies. The organization collects new pajamas and donates them to children's oncology floors. So far, they've donated almost 3,000 pairs of pajamas to 13 hospitals. *(For more information, go to [julia'sjammies on Facebook](#)).*

Gardner's treatment ended on Dec. 17, 2017. She is now healthy and in remission from her leukemia. The treatment caused avascular necrosis, a joint disorder that Gardner will live with for the rest of her life. She has had surgery on three joints and has another planned for December 2018.

"I have seen nothing but positivity and determination from Julia to get back into school and succeed," said Rachel Burgoon, a third-year professional pharmacy student from New Market, Maryland. "Her leukemia definitely gave her a passion for pediatric oncology, and the school of pharmacy has allowed her to help start our pediatrics PRN interest group. She is an incredible person and has never once let her illness be an excuse to not be a good student or friend."

Gardner hopes to graduate in May 2020 with her Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (Pharm.D.) and begin her career as a pharmacist.



Julia Gardner

Simplicity is Thread through Couple's Life

Simple lives focused on intentionally caring for others characterized Roger and Charlotte Kuriger. These traits, and a special connection with Cedarville University, resulted in a \$3.1 million dollar estate gift--the largest in Cedarville's history.

Charlotte Kuriger passed away earlier this year in her hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at the age of 96. Married in 1942, she and her husband, Roger, both enjoyed professional careers, Roger as an accountant and Charlotte as a secretary for Simmons Perrine law firm. They were faithful members of Calvary Baptist Church in Cedar Rapids for more than 50 years.

The funds will be directed to Cedarville University's graduate nursing program and the undergraduate program in accounting through the establishment of the endowed Roger and Charlotte Kuriger Scholarship Fund. This fund will make a Cedarville education possible for future students who are preparing for careers in advanced practice nursing or accounting.

"We are thankful for the gift from the Kurigers. Their generous gift will be used to equip our students to make a kingdom impact in their professions," said Thomas White, president of Cedarville University. "The Kurigers' commitment to sharing the Gospel and serving others reflects our heartbeat at Cedarville University."

New Residence Hall Slated for 2020

Record enrollment for 12 consecutive years, including the largest enrollment this year, is leading Cedarville University to build a new residence hall on campus. The facility to house approximately 300 students is expected to open by fall 2020.

The new residence hall will be located on the north end of campus, just south of the Yellow Jackets soccer complex and west of Callan Athletic Center. Nearby will be townhouses, including the recently named Rooke Hall.

"This new hall will tie together and create a neighborhood of residence options," noted Jon Wood, vice president for student life and Christian ministries. "This continues our model of life-on-life discipleship in a residential community. The indoor and outdoor spaces associated with this new residence hall will be built with community and spiritual growth in mind for the student body."

The new hall is being funded completely through cash reserves of the university; Cedarville will incur no debt.

The three-story, 63,000-square-foot structure will be one of the largest residence halls on campus. One side will be a women's wing and the other a men's wing, each with its own lounge. The two sides will then share a spacious, three-story central lounge. The new hall will also provide four handicapped-accessible suites and parking for 200 vehicles.

Albanian Adoption Story Comes Full Circle

It took more than an acceptance letter to bring freshman, Justin Ben, to Cedarville University; it took divine intervention.

When Kristen Ben walked onto the cornfield-hemmed campus of Cedarville University as a new student in 2000, across the globe in an Albanian orphanage, a 2-year-old boy named Gabriel was learning to walk. Neither could have guessed how their lives would intersect.

Kristen joined a missions team of Cedarville students in Vlorë, Albania, in June 2001. During the three-week missions trip, she felt God tugging her heart toward adoption.

This tug was an answered prayer for her parents, Tom and Sandi Ben. "We had prayed for Kristen that the Lord would break her heart about adoption and work in missions, which God did," Tom Ben explained, "but he broke our hearts too." When Kristen returned home, she began to convince her parents, then in their mid-50s, to adopt. "Adoption was not something we had anticipated," Tom explained, "but the Lord started working in our hearts about the idea of making a change in our life plans."

The Bens prayed through August, and by September, they were filling out paperwork with an adoption agency. In December, just before Christmas, they were notified that a 2 1/2-year-old boy named Gabriel was ready to be adopted. On May 1, 2002, nine months after Kristen returned from Albania, Justin Gabriel Ben came home to his new family.

In spite of the age gap, Kristen and Justin have a close relationship, Kristen often alternating between the role of sister and mother. Kristen, now married to Cedarville sweetheart, Todd Kocher, is a mother of three, and she never lost her heart for adoption. Their youngest son, Zaine, was adopted from the Democratic Republic of Congo. The kids think their uncle Justin is wonderful, and he loves them dearly.

When Justin graduated from high school in 2018, he had a number of college options, but he decided to return where his story, in a way, started — Cedarville University. "This is full circle for Justin and his journey," says Tom Ben, "and yet it feels like our whole family has been wrapped around the Cedarville touch."

If the lives of the Ben family have been touched by Cedarville University, they have been touched because that was God's plan.